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15 May 1980

South and East Asia Report

(FOUO 3/80)



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INDIA

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JPRS L/9094

15 May 1980

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

(FOUO 3/80)

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INDIA

MATION TO PRODUCE NEW VERSION OF MIG 21

Paris AIR & COSMOS in French 12 Apr 80 p 21

[Text] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, whose headquarters and main shops are located at Bangalore, has been building Soviet MIG 21 fighter aircraft, since 1966, in its Nasik plant.

Although it is located in a relatively backward region, this plant has good means of highway or railway communications with Bombay and is not affected, differently from a good part of the territory of India, by periodic interruptions (due to the monsoon) of energy sources of hydroelectric origin. At present, it employs about 8,000 persons, 10 percent of whom form the technical and administrative staff of a labor force characterized by a relative amount of mobility, but always trained on the spot.

The Nasik establishment, built in 1964, was especially designed for producing MIG 21 aircraft, with the assistance of Russian advisers and technicians, particularly with regard to its size (large) and interior layout plans.

Initial production concerned the FL version of MIG 21 aircraft until 1972-1973, when they were replaced with M-version MIG 21 aircraft. In fact, the aircraft were assembled on the basis of imported components until 1975-1976. The first structural parts were manufactured on the spot only starting at that time. Although raw materials with a short shelf life are imported by air to Nasik, transportation of the other components is always carried out by sea. This is still a problem causing concern, owing to the length of the voyage and the delivery times resulting from this. All the electronics are manufactured by the Hyderabad plant and the engines are built at Koraput.

Just as in the other divisions of HAL [Hindustan Aeronautics Limited], regularity in the work rate is still the number one objective. It requires, on the one hand, good mobility of the labor force and, on the other hand, a good social policy, in order to maintain continuity in employment. Although figures have never been specified precisely, respect of the percentage stipulated in the turnover of MAL and pertaining to MIG

production probably requires a production rate slightly higher than for Ajeet (Gnat II) and Chetak/Cheetah (Alouette/Lama) aircraft built in Bangalore. That should be attainable without hiring more workers and without night work, with most of the personnel working in two daytime shifts, with the exception of permanent thermal processing operations requiring three.

Production of MIG 21-M aircraft will stop in 1981-1982, when it will be replaced by production of the new A version. The MIG 21-A is equipped with a more powerful R-25 jet engine and carries more fuel. This gives it better maneuverability and easier utilization of afterburning in operation. The Russians have agreed for the Nasik plant to modify the MIG 21-M airfoils, in order to equip the A-version aircraft with them. That will make it possible to reduce the workload and the costs of production. Nevertheless, this production change will probably call for a transfer of manpower from certain shops to the assembly lines and the flight mangars.

Every year, the Indian Air Force determines, together with HAL, the purchase price of the aircraft for a specific number of units to be delivered during the year, including a reserve provision not amounting systematically to more than 10 percent of the price as before. This old practice had, in fact, given rise to strong criticism on the part of the Indian Parliament and the army.

Two officer pilots of the IAF [Indian Air Force] are permanently assigned to the Nasik flight test office, which also handles, by way of a quarter or a third of its activities, maintenance of all the Indian Air Force aircraft.

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KAMPUCHEA

INFORMATION ON PRK MILITARY UNITS

[The following information was extracted from Phnom Penh Domestic Service broadcasts at 1230 GMT unless otherwise noted on the dates indicated, or from other material as indicated. Unit designators and locations are as given. The remarks include a brief summary of the information available.]

-	between the remarks thereas a biler	building of the information available.
	Unit	Remarks
-	Provincial Military Command Kompong Thom	Training health workers to give medical treatment to armymen (12 Mar 80)
- - -	Military Commands Kompong Chhnang, Pursat, Siem Reap and Kandal Provinces	Created fishing, palm sugar and animal raising groups which have produced food for army units (12 Mar 80)
<u>-</u>	Bn No 1 Pursat Province	Helped people build houses, schools (12 Mar 80)
: ;	First Bn Pursat	Grows vegetables for own use, sets up three production groups for fishing, sugar palm making and rice harvesting (8 Mar 80)
-	Border Defense Units Pailin	Captured or eliminated two groups of Pol Pot remnants, seized 8 weapons (8 Mar 80)
	Kompong Chhang Provincial Forces; 5th Company of 6th Bn	Shared ration with needy families, helped people cultivate rice; helped peasants in Khum Sep of Kompong Tralach District to cultivate rice (23 Feb 80)
	lst Division	Helped regional people to normalize life: 6,000 workdays spent on harvesting rice, planting crops (23 Feb 80)
	2nd Bn Kandal Province	Helped people to increase production, 62 ha of rice harvested, manioc planted (23 Feb 80)
, - =	Radio Communications School Revolutionary Army CSO: 4212	Presented model students (23 Feb 80)

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BRIEFS

JCP CHAIRMAN GREETED--Chairman Heng Samrin of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] has sent the following mable to Presidium Chairman Kenji Miyamoto of the Japan Communist Party [JCP] congratulating him on the success of the 15th part; congress: Dear Comrade: I express my warm congratulations: you on your reelection as Presidium Chairman of the JCP Central Committee. I firmly believe that on the basis of the success of its 15th congress, the JCP will demonstrate the strength to fulfill its historical mission while increasing its role among the Japanese people and in the international communist and labor movements. I wish you good health and great success in your lofty task. [Text] [OW270917 Tokyo AKAHATA in Japanese 25 Mar 80 p 1 OW]

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LAOS

INFORMATION ON LAO MILITARY UNITS

[The following information was extracted from Vientiane Domestic Service Broadcasts at 0400 GMT unless otherwise noted on the dates indicated, or from Lao press material as indicated. Unit designators and locations are as given. The remarks include a brief summary of the information available in the source.]

Unit	Remarks
Regional Forces, Houai Sai, Ton Pheung Districts, Louang Namtha Province	Since December, trained in military tactics and strategy. Performed peace-keeping duties. Studied politics on five occasions. Two enemies were captured in Ton Pheung [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO 9 Feb 80 p A 50)
Southern Region Military Command	Opened course 13 Feb to study 7th resolution of Party Central Committee (0000 GMT 17 Feb 80)
Bn "A: Houa Phan Province	Harvested rice last year (1330 GMT 30 Jan 80)
Company "A" attached to Bn "B" Vientiane	Attended military course beginning 4 Feb (8 Feb 80)
Infantry Bns "A", "S" Southern Region	Attended political, military courses, harvested rice, raised animals (8 Feb 80)
Br. "E" Vientiane	Studied Order of the Day issued by LPLA Supreme Command on 5 Feb (8 Feb 80)
Army Agricultural Settlement 23 Southern Region	Improved sports and literature work (8 Feb 80)
Tank Bn "B" Vientiane	Competed in carrying out various tasks in building living quarters, felling logs, harvesting rice 'll Feb 80)

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Ξ	Bn "A" Southern Region	Scored achievements in studying political documents, boosting production (11 Feb 80)
	Bn "S" Southern Region	Harvested rice, raised animals, carried out other tasks (11 Feb 80)
-	Infantry Bn "A" Vientiane	Studied military strategy and tactics (11 Feb 80)
	Auto-Transport Bn Wientiane	Transported supplies, repaired vehicles (11 Feb 80)
	Infantry Bn "A" Southern Region	Attended political, military courses, harvested rice, planted crops (10 Feb 80)
-	Infantry Bn "S" Vientiane	Started clearing ricefields (10 Feb 80)
-	Company "S" under Bn "A" Vientiane	Attended sports, art course (10 Feb 80)
_	No "A" Vientiane	Built barracks, warehouses and other buildings (13 Feb 80)
	Defense Bn Vientiane	Opened classes to study documents on Army traditions (13 Feb 80)
	LPLA Kommadam Intermediate School Vientiane	Held ceremony for outstanding cadres, combatants (13 Feb 80)
-	Artillery Bn "A" Vientiane	Studied documents on traditions, party resolutions. Medical cadres attached to the Bn cured patients (14 Feb 80)
<u>-</u>	Auto-Transport Bn 404 Southern Region	Competed in fulfilling specialized tasks (1200 GMT 16 Jan 80)
-	Public Security Service [Meuang] Chanthabouli District, Savannakhet Province	Carried out their tasks (15 Feb 80)
	Infantry Bn "A" 'ientiane	Attended political, cultural courses beginning 5 Feb (15 Feb 80)
_	ompany "S" under Savannakhet Provincial Military Command	Harvested rice, raised animals (15 Feb 80)

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	Army Rice Mill Vientiane	Scored achievements in specialized work, food production (18 Feb 80)
-	Public Security Forces Houa Phan Province	Scored achievements in routine work, food production (18 Feb 80)
-	Infantry Bn "E" Vientiane	Attended military, political classes, cleared land, raised many animals (16 Feb 80)
-	Army Fish Sauce Factory	Emulating to increase production, repair buildings and irrigation canals (16 Feb 80)
	Staff Office under Luang Prabang Provincial Military Command	Attended political, military courses, planted rice, other crops (16 Feb 80)
	Bn "A" Vientiane	Held meeting mid-Feb to review achievements (17 Feb 80)
_	Army Saw Mill Vientiane	Scored achievements in timber processing, food production (20 Feb 80)
	Army Command Southern Region	Opened meeting 13 Feb to study 7th Resolution of Party Central Committee (20 Feb 80)
	Sait Producing Unit of Army Logistics Department, Vientiane	Produced 1 million kilo of salt in 1979 (20 Feb 80)
• -	Infantry Bn "A" Vientiane	Adopted new resolution to study and promote army traditions, carry out party policies (21 Feb 80)
-	Army Sawmill Vientiane	Milled rice (21 Feb 80)
_	Ha Bac Officer's School Vietnam	Lao students being trained there (NOUM LAO No 20, 15 Oct-1 Nov 79 p 10)
<u>=</u> -	2nd Company of Bn "E" .tentiane	Scored achievements in building its force and food production (24 Feb 80)
	Army Medical Service Southern Region	Vaccinated mothers and children during dry season to prevent disease (24 Feb 80)
-	Auto Repair Shop Vientiane	Repaired vehicles (25 Feb 80)

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	Bn "A" Vientiane	Emulating to score achievements (25 Feb 80)
-	Central Region Military Command	Planted starchy crops, vegetables (25 Feb 80)
- <u>-</u>	Kommadam School Southern Region	Harvested rice (26 Feb 80)
-	Mobile Film Projection Unit Southern Region's Army Political Office	Showed films to local people (26 Feb 80)
-	Transport Bn "B" Vientiane	Villagers helped troops repair barracks and houses (26 Feb 80)
- -	Enfantry Bn "C" Vientiane	Attended political course to study cultural literature and other documents (27 Feb 80)
-	Independent Company "S" Oudomsai Province	Repaired many houses, buildings, engaged in food production (27 Feb 80)
	Public Security Section Attopeu Province	Attended course on significance of 25th anniversary of LPRP (27 Feb 80)
_	Bn "CH" Vientiane Region	Organized military, political training (28 Feb 80)
-	Art Troupe of Viangsai Region	Stated performances 26 Feb for Bn "CH" in Vientiane Region (28 Feb 80)
-	Company "B" attached to Bn #1 Vientiane	Harvested rice, carried out other tasks in production season (29 Feb 80)
-	Army Noodle Factory Vientiane	Produced noodles, rice (29 Feb 80)
-	oround Artillery Bn "NG" Vientiane	Reclaimed wasteland (29 Feb 80)
-	Army Shoe Factory Workers Vientiane	Produced shoes (1 Mar 80)
	Army Noodle Factory dientiane	Fulfilled production plan, expanded cultivated areas, bred animals, stepped up art, sports activities (1 Mar 80)
-	Anti-aircraft Bn "A" Clentiane	Felled logs, set up warehouse, repaired houses expanded cultivated areas (1 Mar 80)
		8

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-	Artillery Bn "F" Vientiane	Visited by Bulgarian military delegation 2 Mar (3 Mar 80)
	Literature and Art Troupe Viangeal Region	Performed for Air Force Command in Vientiane (3 Mar 80)
_	Military Training School Vientiane	Emulating to score achievements to welcome LPRP anniversary (3 Mar 80)
	Company ${}^{0}F^{0}$ under First Bn Vientiane	Attended political, military, sports courses (4 Mar 80)
-	Army Brick Production Unit Xieng Khouang Region Military Command	Produced bricks (5 Mar 80)
	Production Group under Xieng Khouang Region Military Command	Launched campaign to build irrigation projects (5 Mar 80)
<u>:</u> :	Bn "C" Vientiane	Attended military training, carried out other tasks (6 Mar 80)
	Company "A" attached to Bn "CH" Vientiane	Completed shooting practice (6 Mar 80)
-	Army Cultural Training School Savannakhet Province	Concluded school year, boosted production (6 Mar 80)
	Infantry Bn "A" Vientiane	Held meeting to review achievements (7 Mar 80)
	Infantry Bn No 1 Vientiane	Opened cultural training course (7 Mar 80)
_	Anti-Aircraft Bn Vientiane	Enthusiastically implemented tasks for 1980 (7 Mar 80)
<u>-</u>	Vientiane Provincial Military Command	Opened conference on regional armed forces' affairs on 6 Mar (8 Mar 80)
-	Naval Transport Unit Vientiane	Scored achievements in studying politics, transporting salt, oil and other supplies (8 Mar 80)
4	Army Garment Factory Vientiane	Scored achievements in production, education work (10 Mar 80)
-	Bn "S" Vientiane Region	Tried to score achievements to hail LPRP anniversary (9 Mar 80)

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Military Hospital Scored achievements in Jan-Peb (9 Mar Houa Phan Province 80) Training Schools attached to Studied 7th Resolution of Party Central Army Logistics Department Committee (12 Mar 80) Vientiane Bns "T", "N" Studied 7th Resolution of Party since Vientiane 6 Mar (12 Mar 80) Youth Union of National Held meeting 12 Mar to support 7th Defense Ministry Resolution of Party Central Committee Medical Training School of Launched campaign to boost food produc-Army Logistics Department tion (13 Mar 80) Vientiane Drivers Training School of Gave intensive training to students Army Logistics Department (13 Mar 80)

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LAOS

ANTI-REGIME ACTIVITY OF 'LAO PEOPLE'S PARTY' REPORTED

Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 20 Jan 80 p 4

[Article by Kazuaki Saionji]

[Text] In Indochina in upheaval, Laos is hidden behind Vietnam and Kampuchea, and the situation in that country has not been reported fully. This reporter secretly entered anti-Government guerrilla activities and the situation of their livelihood. For the Kaysone Government of Laos, refugees, minority people, and Buddhists supporting anti-Government guerrillas are about to become three "heels of Achilles." Many refugee camps have become guerrilla bases, and minority people have become a strong basis in support of guerrillas. Many Buddhist priests, represented by Reverend Yotto Keo [phonetic], openly support guerrilla struggles. This reporter wants to report on moves in Laos, which has the possibility of exerting big effects on Vietnam and Kampuchea.

No Food, No Clothes

Overshadowed by the Vietnamese and Kampuchean refugees, the miserable situation in which the Lao refugees are placed is not widely known.

There are many Lao refugees. 150,000 refugees have already been accommodated in refugee camps in Thailand. A larger number of refugees, who are suffering from illness and hunger, are wandering in areas along the Thailao border.

This reporter met a group of Lao refugees, who have not been able to enter Thailand, at the Sayaboury area in the northern part of Laos. Groups of one hundred and several dozen refugees were narrowly maintaining their lives in huts built of wood and bamboo.

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There were about 20 big and small huts. From two to three families lived in one hut. Almost all of them are farmers. They said: "We cannot eat and live in Laos. We want to enter Thailand." However, they are not permitted to enter Thailand.

Almost all of them were suffering from some kind of disease or other. The disease spread among these persons above all was malaria. Almost all children were under-nourished. Their faces were pale and swollen. They moved slowly, and they were expressionless.

This reporter was permitted to stay at a hut overnight. The space, which was equivalent to about 20 "tatami" mats, was divided into three sections. Two families consisting of 18 persons lived there.

Among the 18 persons, 12 were children, the eldest of whom was 13 years old. Even though it is bitterly cold at night, they were hardly any clothes. Some of them had nothing on from their waists up. They ate a very tiny amount of taro, which they had collected in the mountains by digging the earth, sipped vegetable juice, and slept at night around an open fire, while cuddling together. Children who can hardly see, because their eyesight has become weak from malnutrition, children who have festering sores all over their body... Their parents, who no longer have tears to shed, merely sat there motionless.

We feel sorry for the refugees in relocation centers in Thailand, but even their condition is better than those who are wandering in areas along the Lorder. The refugees in Thailand receive the minimum amount of food ration, due to efforts made by international organizations and volunteers. They also have an opportunity to receive medical treatment. However, the refugees wandering about in areas along the border cannot see even a ray of hope. They are not given the minimum amounts of rice and medical supplies. If it is true that they have some "helping hands" or other, they are small amounts of rice and medical supplies given by anti-Government guerrillas. In fact, when the guerrillas left the area the next morning, they left a small amount of medical supplies. The guerrillas, however, are suffering from an extremely severe shortage of rice and medical supplies.

Heading Toward Organized Resistance, by Rising Above Local Resistance

In the mountain areas in the northern part of Laos, there are various minority people, such as the Meo people, Yao, Cao [phonetic], and others.

On our way to a "tarn" [phonetic strategic point] of the Lao People's Party guerrillas, we came across a village of Yao people. From 200 to 300 villagers live in huts built by banana leaves and bamboo in a flat area along a river. They wore pretty folk costumes, but their livelihood is very poor. The villagers there, too, eat taro and wild grass. In their huts, there was hardly any furniture.

A guerrilla explained that "These people have very recently fled to this place." According to his explanation, these Yao people, who had lived in an area close to Sayaboury, offered resistance against the Government's policy of having them join agricultural co-operatives, half forcibly. Various "retaliatory" measures were taken against them, for this reason, such as the Government's not permitting the selling of goods, which these Yao people wanted to obtain. Finally, Government forces set fire to their village. It is said that the villagers gave up living in their village, where they had long lived, and all the villagers, who want to live in Thailand, have arrived here.

Several days after that, a guerrilla, who looked happy, said to this reporter: "Those Yao people have decided to stay in Laos and take action, in co-operation with us. They plan to establish a village in an area close to our 'tarn'."

About one half of the population of Laos, 3,500,000, are minority people, a majority of whom live in the mountain areas. When viewed historically, they have always been subject to oppression and discrimination. Since Laos itself has been oppressed by big powers, the minority people in that country had been oppressed doubly and triply. For this reason, these people have always been offering resistance and fighting.

it is said that the Meo people's resistance movement is the severest among the movements carried out by the minority people. The proud and militant Meo people produced a valiant general named Vang Pao. Vang Pao's forces still remain in some parts of Laos. The Lao People's Party, too, is steadily incorporating the resistance movement being carried out by the minority people, centering on the Meo and Yao people, under the guidance of the Party. According to Lao People's Party Northern District Forces Commander Kam Phong [phonetic], the Meo people are offering such strong resistance that the government forces cannot put it under control. It is said that the Vietnamese forces have directly started to subjugate these people.

The Meo and Yao people are offering resistance in extensive areas in the northern area, including the Sayaboury area between the Mekong River and the Thai-Lao border, the mountain area on the eastern side of the Mekong River, which area faces Sayaboury across the Mekong, a mountain area close to the border with Burma, and an area close to the border with China.

According to Kam Phong, the minority people's resistance movement is characteristic recently in that it has started to narrow down its major enemies to Vietnamese forces, and that it has started to rise above local resistance to unified and organized resistance. If this situation develops further, it will become impossible for the 48,000-man Government Forces and 60,000-man Vietnamese forces, which are said to be stationed in Laos now, to put the resistance movement under control. Vietnam will probably be forced to increase the number of military personnel to be stationed there.

People, Too, Start to Show Strong Repulsion

Ninety percent of the Lao people are devoted Buddhists. They live with the teachings of Buddhism as the basis. People in general, too, undergo Buddhist training for one week, if short, or for one month, if long, by shaving their heads, and wearing yellow monk robes. No matter how poor the people are, they express their respect to monks and offer food to them, when they visit these people's homes.

If polltics, which does not respect Buddhism, is carried out in this kind of nation, it will meet strong resistance, without fail. It may have been the already-decided policy for the Kaysone government, which came to power by putting up socialism, to restrict the religion, which is "opium," and to carry out anti-religious propaganda among the people. That Government may have expected that it would meet resistance, to a certain extent. It seems, however, that the people's repulsion to the policy of oppressing Buddhism was shown in an unexpected way.

This reporter had opportunities to meet Reverend Yotto Keo [phonetic], a living Buddha who has taken asylum in Bangkok, and several Buddhist priests in Laos. They had the twofold feelings of repulsion against the Kaysone government's policy of oppressing Buddhism and hatred toward Vietnam.

A certain priest said: "We Buddhists are hoping for independence, freedom and peace. However, since Vietnam entered our country, everything has worsened. Stronger pressure has come to be applied on Buddhism."

According to what was stated by a plural number of priests, the Government criticizes priests as if they were "parasites," and demands that they support themselves, by finding some job or other. Young priests are forced to "reform themselves through labor." It has actually become impossible for them to carry out Buddhist activities. It is said that young people are forbidden to become priests. Some priests are offering resistance to such a policy. It is said that "these priests disappear before we realize it. Their whereabouts are completely unknown."

This reporter pointed out that some priests are "co-operating" with the Kaysone Government. The reply was given, in return, that "It is only on the surface. They cannot but do so." A certain priest said that there are three ways to offer resistance. One way is to obey the Government, against their intention, and to oppose it in their hearts. It is so-called false obedience. Another way is to flee to Thailand, and the third way is to commit suicide, in protest. It is said that the number of priests who commit suicide has been increasing. Some priests said that although Buddhists have not yet put up organized resistance, a resistance movement will arise some day, without fail.

When the people's struggles against the Government's policy of oppressing buddhism are connected with nationalist struggles against Vietnam, and when someone unifies and takes the lead over the power of repulsion, these struggles may develop into unexpectedly strong power.

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Foreign Forces Intervening in Laos

The guerrillas said: "In regard to foreign forces intervening in Laos at present, there are the Soviet Union and Cuba, besides Vietnam."

According to what they stated, close to 2,000 Soviet people are "stationed" in the Capital City of Vientiane under the name of military advisors and technicians, and 50 Soviet advisors have joined the Government Forces Headquarters. On the other hand, it is said that Cuba has dispatched real combat troops, which take part in the subduing of guerrillas. A certain guerrilla said that he saw Cuban military personnel in an area close to Vientiane.

However, it seems that in regard to these three nations, the positions of Vietnam and the Soviet Union are contradictory to each other. According to a guerrilla, Vietnam, which thinks that Laos is completely a part of Vietnam does not welcome the Soviet Union's direct commitment to Laos. It is said that the Soviet Union is dissatisfied with the situation where that country has to extend aid through Vietnam, without exception. The guerrilla said that "in short, the two countries want to put Laos under their direct control."

The guerrillas' hatred is centered on Vietnam. They said: "Above all other things, [the problem] is Vietnam. It puts everything in Laos under its control, through 60,000 Vietnamese military personnel and several hundred thousand Vietnamese immigrants." According to what they stated, Vietnam takes command of even platoons of the Laotian Government Forces, and [Vietnamese forces] and Government Forces are deployed for the subduing of guerrillas, in pairs. The guerrillas, who feel sympathy for Government Forces, said: "In such a case, Government Forces are always made to walk in the van of Vietnamese forces. They are used as Vietnamese forces' protectors against firing."

It seems that among the Government Forces, too, repulsion against Vietnam is becoming strong. It is said that when Government Forces' patrols encounter guerrillas, they often call upon guerrillas, saying, "We don't want to fight. Let's stop firing at each other." It is said that guerrillas, too, do not want to kill Government Forces, who are also Laotian people, and that therefore, unless Government Forces attack them, they will not counterattack. A certain guerrilla said: "In fact, within the Government Forces, too, there are some who have secretly established contacts with us. Moreover, their number is by no means small."

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MAT.AYSTA

LNG PRODUCTION TO INCREASE

OW100131 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 9 Apr 80 p 5 OW

[Article by H. Ueda]

[Text] Kyoto--Tan Sri Abdullah Bin Salles, chairman of Malaysia's state oil company Petronas, said here Tuesday that his country would gradually increase its natural gas production by exploring not only the gas field in Bintulu but also that off the coast of Treng-annu.

When Malaysia's project for an LNG plant at Bintulu is completed in October 1982, and the first shipment of energy made in 1983, that country will become the second largest LNG exporting country in the world, only behind Indonesia.

In an interview with THE JAPAN TIMES, Abdullah, now visiting Kyoto to attend the 6th international conference and exhibition on LNG, said that many companies of Japan and other countries had already expressed their interest in taking part in the Trengannu gas field exploration project.

Although the Bintulu project is now being carried out in a joint venture by Petronas, Shell and Mitsubishi Corp., the Trengannu project is expected to be undertaken in a similar joint venture by Petronas and Esso.

"Malaysia is a fast developing country, and LNG is expected to play a role in that process," he said. At present, however, the gas reserves at Trengannu are planned for domestic use in Malaysia's own industrialization program and not for further export, according to him.

Abdullah explained that the LNG plant in Bintulu is only one part of the Malaysian Government's plan to develop the area. It plans to simultaneously construct a port and also a urea plant, one of the five joint projects of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Asked whether the production in Bintulu could be increased further, he first replied, "We are not thinking yet of expanding," and then added, "increase in production depends on many factors, especially the availability of gas. Contracts must first be assured."

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He denied a recent press report that the first shipment of Bintulu's LNG to Japan, originally scheduled for January 1983, might be delayed because of some technological problems involved in the construction of the liquefaction plant.

Abdullah explained that the Bintulu project is at the stage where the site has been cleared and site works about to be completed in preparation for plant construction.

At the same time, expansion work on the Sodegaura receiving terminal operated jointly by Tokyo Gas Co. and Tokyo Electric Power Co. in Chiba Prefecture, is proceeding smoothly, said Abdullah, who visited the site earlier in his stay in Japan.

The plant is expected to reach full operation by 1985-86, he said, at which time it will be supplying Japan with six million tons of LNG a year.

Asked whether he believes the LNG prices should be at the same level with those of crude oil in terms of the thermal value, he replied that they must be related "to some extent" to crude oil prices because they cannot be completely isolated from other energy prices.

"Pricing for Bintulu's LNG depends on the situation at the time of the delivery," he said.

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TAIWAN

TOKYO MAN ALLEGES TORTURE BY TAIWAN SECURITY POLICE

OW200919 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in Japanese 19 Mar 80 p 2 OW

[Text] A Tokyo restaurant employee, arrested last December by Taiwanese authorities on charges of taking part in anti-Kuomintang (Nationalist Party of China) riots in Kaohsiung, said here Monday he was tortured during interrogations by security police and was ordered to serve as a spy for the Taiwan Government.

Masahiro Watarida, 27, was detained for 3 months after he was arrested 21 December in connection with the riot on 10 December last year. He was released and returned to Japan last Thursday.

Watarida, a member of a group seeking release of political prisoners in Taiwan, told KYODO News Service he was also forced to make a "confession."

Watarida went to Taiwan on 19 December to investigate the 10 December Kaohsiung riot and met with family members of political prisoners arrested in connection with the case.

He was arrested 21 December at Taipei Airport.

Watarida said he was taken to police headquarters in Kaohsiung for questioning. He said he was not permitted to sleep for 24 hours and was ordered to stand up straight. When he became dizzy, police beat him, Watarida said.

During the interrogations, Watarida said, he was also asked whether he came to Taiwan to help Shi Ming-te, 38, general manager of the antigovernment monthly magazine MEILITAO, to flee. Shi was arrested on 8 January in connection with the Kaohsiung case.

When he replied he knew nothing about him, the interrogators manhandled him, Watarida said. Violent questioning continued for 10 more days, Watarida said, adding that he was forced to tell everything about his group and to sign an interrogation report written in Chinese. He was detained by police for 2 months afterward.

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Watarida said that as a condition of his release he was ordered to spy on Japanese human rights organizations and Taiwan-related persons.

At a news conference held upon arriving at Osaka, Watarida said nothing about the torture as he was warned by Taiwan authorities that if he did so, they would make public that he had promised to spy for them, he said.

A court martial for eight leaders of MEILITAO magazine will be held Tuesday.

An American university assistant professor, who is a member of Amnesty International, is now being questioned by Taiwan authorities for his alleged involvement in the Kaohsiung case.

The headquarters of Amnesty International in London said Sunday that Taiwan authorities torture political prisoners to obtain confessions.

A spokesman for the East Asian Relations Association, a semi-governmental Taiwanese organization in Tokyo, said there was no possibility of tortures and forced spying.

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